

without any sharp ones even in the male, and with scattered, usually prostrate, but often inclined, scales. *Legs* with the femora more closely and coarsely punctate. Length, 6-7 mm.; breadth, 2.5-3 mm.

Moala Island, Fiji. Holotype male, allotype female, and one female paratype collected by Mr. E. H. Bryan, Jr., from under bark, July 12, 1924.

A New Genus of Samoan Curculionidae (Coleoptera)

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(Presented at the meeting of December 3, 1936)

I propose the generic term *Samoacis* for the reception of a peculiar new weevil from Samoa. It belongs to the subfamily Diabathrarinae and is allied to *Strongylorhinus*, an Australian genus.

I wish to thank Sir Guy A. K. Marshall for his help in ascertaining the relationship of this new genus.

Samoacis new genus.

Head flattened between the eyes and there narrower than the base of the rostrum; the eyes, from above, conspicuous, angulate and projecting laterally, set below the dorsum. *Rostrum* gradually expanded on the sides from the base to the apex, about as long as the head, flattened above, apex entire, rounded; scrobe beginning just behind the middle but with an evanescent sulcus extending anteriorly, deep, linear, slightly arcuate, oblique, passing downward to the lower margin of the eye. *Antennae* inserted just behind the middle of the rostrum; the scape rather short, clavate, about as long as the first four funicular segments; first funicular segment subglobose, as broad as long, almost as long as the following two segments together, twice as broad as two which is slightly longer than three, three to seven successively shorter and more transverse; club rather large, as long as segments three to seven inclusive, oval, apparently three segmented. *Prothorax* broader than long, the basal margin sinuous and broader than the apex. *Scutellum* conspicuous, not very large. *Elytra* sinuous and deeply emarginate in the middle at the base, much broader than the prothorax, the humeri abrupt, strong and broad, compressed dorso-ventrally; ten striate, the intervals broader than the striae. *Wings* fully developed. *Legs* with the femora rather strongly clavate, edentate; tibiae laterally compressed, rather stout, with a minute tooth at the inner apical angle, the corbels open, somewhat ascending, fringed with short setae; tarsi broad, the second segment strongly transverse, the

third deeply cleft, the fourth inserted near the base of the third and hardly extending beyond its anterior margin; the claws strong, divaricate. *Sternum* with the front coxae nearer the hind margin of the prosternum than the fore margin, narrowly separated by two projections of the prosternum, the anterior one larger and more pointed and separated from the posterior projection by a distinct gap; mesocoxae separated by a distance equal to three-fourths the breadth of a mesocoxa, the mesosternum protuberant between them; episternum somewhat larger than the epimeron; metasternum long, flattened, about twice as long as a posterior coxa at its narrowest point between the mid and hind coxae; the metepisternal suture distinct throughout; metacoxae widely separated by a distance about equal to one-third more than the breadth of a metacoxa. *Venter* with the intercoxal process arcuate, the first ventrite slightly longer than two, the second about as long as three and four together, the suture between one and two arcuate, and more or less fused in the middle, ventrites three to five subequal in length. Body scaly.

Genotype: *Samoacis planatus*, new species

This genus is allied to *Strongylorhinus* Schoenherr (1847), but is distinct from that genus in that the scrobes begin behind the middle of the rostrum and clearly reach the eyes, the antennae are inserted between the eyes and the middle of the rostrum, the first funicular segment is much longer than the second, instead of being shorter as in *Strongylorhinus*, the club is heavy and as long as funicular segments three to seven inclusive, the eyes are unusual, protuberant and angulate, the thorax is distinctly broader than long, the elytra are much broader than the thorax, with strongly developed humeri, and the fourth tarsal segment is not slender but rather stout. Besides these characters there are numerous others that will serve to distinguish *Samoacis* from *Strongylorhinus*.

Samoacis planatus new species (Fig. 1).

Derm reddish-brown, rather densely clothed above with elongate-oval scales, the majority of which are iridescent, interspersed with patches of brown scales; head with greenish and bronze scales; pronotum usually with the iridescent scales condensed to form a broad, pale median vitta, the scales toward the side usually brown, but often the iridescent scaling extends over the entire disk; elytra variably mottled with patches of brown and pale greenish or bronze iridescent scales, but usually with a small paler patch on each side of the scutellum and a variable, but usually conspicuous, common transverse pale band just behind the middle that is often very broadly and solidly V-shaped or triangular; legs clothed above with elongate greenish and bronze iridescent scales.

Head slightly impressed between and behind the middle of the eyes, front narrowed from the anterior to the posterior margins of the eyes; eyes subtrapezoidal when viewed from above, strongly protuberant, squamose behind, the distance between the lateral margins of the eyes much greater than the base of the head and slightly broader than the anterior margin of the prothorax, separated from the dorsum of the head by a sharply defined cliff-like sulcus. *Rostrum* with the dorsal outline forming a broad angle with the head, with a median dorsal impression, squamose to the epistome which is polished, bare and has a few scattered punctures; scrobes very deep. *Antennae* with the second funicular segment about as long as three plus one-half of four, four about as broad as long, the others successively more transverse. *Prothorax* broader than long (2:1.5), base broader than the apex in the same proportions, shallowly sinuate, apex usually truncate but sometimes very shallowly emarginate, almost straight on the sides from the base to the middle, where it is broadest, and thence narrowed to the apex; the longitudinal dorsal outline convex, higher in the middle than the base, slightly, transversely impressed before and behind the middle, the basal margin somewhat flattened, especially in the female; densely squamose, with rather large punctures bearing curved, prostrate setae on the sides, the disk usually impunctate, or with at most a few scattered punctures. *Scutellum* densely squamose. *Elytra* about three times as long as the prothorax, longitudinally convex in the male, but greatly and conspicuously flattened in the female, the outline in both made somewhat uneven by some variable dorsal impressions, base sinuate, deeply emarginate in the middle, the humeri abrupt and angulate, the distance across them nearly twice the breadth of the prothorax (7:4), the elytra thence parallel-sided to the apical third from whence they are roundly narrowed to the apex; rather conspicuously angulate at the sides, the epipleurae more distinct in the female than in the male, the intervals flat, about twice as broad as the striae, densely squamose; striae punctures rounded or somewhat quadrate, deep, each bearing a hair-like seta, the striae on the disk deeper and more distinct than those on the epipleurae, striae ten feebly developed, at least behind the middle. *Legs* with the femora densely squamose above only, tibiae with scattered slender scales and setae, the apical denticle often difficult to see, tarsi with white setae above, spongy beneath, the claws strongly bent beneath. *Sternum* with the metasternum subconfluently punctate, transversely rugose and with scattered, prostrate, hair-like setae, but with elongate iridescent scales laterally. *Venter* with the ventrites rather uniformly finely punctate and rugulose, the punctures bearing fine, prostrate setae; ventrites four and five retracted and bent upwards in the female. Length, 3-3.5 mm.; breadth, 1.4-1.6 mm.

Tutuila, Samoa. Holotype male, allotype female, and two paratypes from Pago Pago, collected by sweeping, February 26, 1930, and three paratypes collected on the Leone-Aule trail, November 12. All were collected by Mr. D. T. Fullaway and are stored in Bernice P. Bishop Museum.

This species is most distinct from any other Samoan weevil. Its flattened form, protuberant eyes, and its short claw segment will serve to distinguish it offhand.

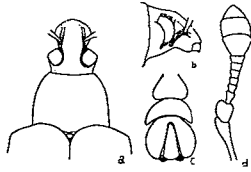


Figure 1. Diagrams of details of *Samoacis planatus*, new species: a, dorsal view of head, pronotum and base of elytra; b, lateral view of head; c, dorsal view of tarsus; d, antenna.